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> DA 10-684 April 22, 2010

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMMENT AND REPLY COMMENT DATES FOR THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING IN THE AMENDMENT OF PART 97 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES REGARDING AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE COMMMUNICATIONS DURING GOVERNMENT DISASTER DRILLS

WP Docket No. 10-72

Comments Date: May 24, 2010 Reply Comments Date: June 7, 2010

On March 18, 2010, the Commission adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* proposing to amend our Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service to provide that, under certain limited conditions, amateur radio operators may transmit messages during emergency and disaster preparedness drills, regardless of whether the operators are employees of entities participating in the drill. The *NPRM* seeks comment on the Commission's tentative conclusions and proposed rule amendments. The *NPRM* sets deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 45 days after publication of the *NPRM* in the Federal Register.

On April 22, 2010, a summary of the *NPRM* was published in the Federal Register.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, comments must be filed on or before May 24, 2010; and reply comments must be filed on or before June 7, 2010. Comment filing instructions are set forth in the *NPRM*.<sup>4</sup> The *NPRM* is available at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-45A1.doc.

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Jeffrey Cohen, Senior Legal Counsel, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB), (202) 418-0799 or Zenji Nakazawa, Deputy Chief, PSHSB Policy Division (202) 418-7949.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Amateur Radio Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills, WP Docket No. 10-72, *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 10-45, \_\_ FCC Rcd \_\_ ¶ 1 (rel. Mar. 18, 2010)(*NPRM*).

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  *Id.* at ¶¶ 5-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See 75 Fed. Reg. 77 (April 22, 2010).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See NPRM, at ¶ 12.